



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Thomas GRAMKOW, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/549,741

Confirmation No.: 7041

Filed: September 19, 2005

Art Unit: 2856

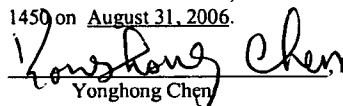
For: **METHOD FOR TESTING THE FUNCTION OF A HYDRAULIC VALVE AND A TEST BENCH FOR CARRYING OUT SAID METHOD**

Attorney Docket No.: 3926.211

Customer No.: 30448

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited either by facsimile to 571-273-8300 or with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 31, 2006.


Yonghong Chen, Reg. No. 56,150

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of the non-US documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, copy of an International Search Report (ISR) and a German Examination Report dated December 23, 2003 issued in the corresponding applications are provided herewith.

1. US 3,100,392
2. US 6,466,893 B1
3. US 1,554,637
4. US 5,113,705
5. DE 196 4S 689 A1 (English abstract provided)
6. DE 195 08 954 C1 (English abstract provided)
7. DE 42 18 320 A1 (English abstract provided)
8. DE 38 41 771 A1 (English abstract provided)
9. DE 100 31 203 C2 (English abstract provided)
10. DE 195 11 704 A1 (English abstract provided)
11. DE 694 21 393 T2 (English abstract provided)

Documents 1-4 are cited in the ISR. Documents 5-11 are cited in the German Examination Report. A concise explanation of relevancy for each non-English document is provided below:

Documents 5 and 9

It is indicated in the German Examination Report that Documents 1 and 9 disclose a method for function testing of a hydraulic valve, wherein a gaseous medium under pressure is used as testing medium (see the respective abstract). It is also indicated that column 3, lines 51-52 of Document 5 are relevant to claim 2, and column 3, line 60 – column 4, line 6 and column 5, lines 1-6 of Document 5 are relevant to claim 8 of the corresponding German application.

Document 6

It is indicated in the German Examination Report that the single figure, reference number 2 of Document 6 is relevant to claim 3 and claims 6-7 of Document 6 are relevant to claim 8 of the corresponding German application.

Document 7

It is stated in the German Examination Report that Fig. 2 of Document 7 is relevant to claims 4-5, Fig. 1, reference number 9, Fig. 2 and page 2, lines 52-60 of Document 7 are relevant to claims, and page 3, lines 10-20 of Document 7 are relevant to claim 12 of the corresponding German application.

Document 8

It is stated in the German Examination Report that Fig. 1, reference number 9 of Document 8 is relevant to claim 6 of the corresponding German application.

Document 10

It is stated in the German Examination Report that column 2, lines 17-27 of Document 10 are relevant to claim 7 of the corresponding German application.

Document 11

It is stated in the German Examination Report that claim 8 of Document 11 is relevant to claim 11 of the corresponding German application.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, therefore no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

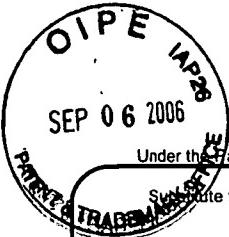
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 31, 2006

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~~Substitute for form 1449/PTO~~

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/549,741
Filing Date	09/19/2005
First Named Inventor	Thomas GRAMKOW
Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	3926.211

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 196 48 689 A1	05-28-1998	Rober Bosch GmbH		
		DE 195 08 954 C1	10-17-1996	Mannesmann Rexroth GmbH		
		DE 42 18 320 A1	09-12-1993	Siemens AG		
		DE 38 41 771 A1	09-11-1989	Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft		
		DE 100 31 203 C2	06-27-2002	Siemens AG		
		DE 195 11 704 A1	10-19-1995	Volkswagen AG		

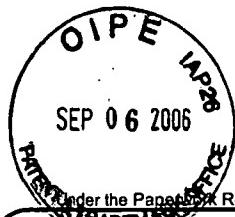
Examiner Signature	/Robert Raevs/	Date Considered	03/03/2008
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).** **²See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.4.** **³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).** **⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.** **⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.** **⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.**

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH /B B/



SEP 06 2006

PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/549,741
Filing Date	09/19/2005
First Named Inventor	Thomas GRAMKOW
Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name	
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature	/Robert Raevs/	Date Considered	03/03/2008
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